

MEETING MINUTES

Finance Committee

May 13, 2009

CALL TO ORDER

Time – 7:00 P.M.

Members in attendance: Chairman Joanne F. Marden, Mary O'Donoghue, S. Jon Stumpf, Cindy Milne, Richard T. Howe, Mark Merritt, Stephen Stapinski and Paul Fortier.

Also present: Anthony J. Torrisi, Finance Director and School Committee member Dennis Forgue.

WARRANT ARTICLE POSITIONS

Ms. Marden distributed draft copies of motions for warrant articles for the 2009 Town Meeting for committee review and discussion:

Article 23G – Rescinding of Bond Authorizations

Jon Stumpf moved and Richard Howe seconded to recommend approval of Article 23G. The motion passed unanimously 8-0.

Article 29 – Water Main Construction/Reconstruction

Article 30 – Water System Supply Improvements

Article 65 – Water Treatment Plant Roof Replacement

Mr. Torrisi explained that approving these articles would clean up old appropriations rather than authorize additional bonding. Jon Stumpf moved and Richard Howe seconded to recommend approval of Articles 29, 30 and 65 as written. The motion passed unanimously 8-0.

Attorney Mark Johnson presented Articles 59 & 60 - Feasibility Study/Schematic Design-Bancroft Elementary School to committee members for clarification. Mr. Johnson stated that MSBA regulations and guidelines were changing all the time but that it is the intent of the School Building Committee to go before Town Meeting with a reduced number from \$735,000 to \$525,000. After committee concerns were addressed by Mr. Johnson, Mary O'Donoghue moved and Richard Howe seconded to recommend approval of Article 59 as written. The motion passed unanimously 8-0.

Article 60 - Feasibility Study/Schematic Design-Bancroft Elementary School

Mark Merritt moved and Mary O'Donoghue seconded to recommend approval of Article 60 as written if Article 59 is not approved. The motion passed unanimously 8-0.

Article 35 – Watershed Protection Overlay District

Concern was raised over what impact Article 35 might have on the Town relative to tax collection. Discussion including pros and cons followed. Ms. Marden stated that maybe Town Meeting should be alerted to this concern.

Article 58 – War Memorial Auditorium Repairs/Renovation

Mary O'Donoghue moved and Paul Fortier seconded to recommend approval. The motion passed unanimously 8-0.

Article 17 – 5 Campanelli Drive

Committee members were updated that Article 17 would be presented to Town Meeting at a reduced amount. Richard Howe moved and Jon Stumpf seconded to recommend approval of Article 17 in the amount of \$27,255.00. The motion passed 7-1-0.

Article 18 – Site Evaluation for a New Town Yard

Richard Howe moved and Mary O'Donoghue seconded to recommend approval of Article 18. The motion passed unanimously 8-0.

Andover resident Mary Carbone voiced concern over timing of the New Town Yard project. Plant & Facilities Director Joe Piantedosi countered that the original Town Yard building was constructed in the 1960's and that it was only supposed to last 10 years. Mr. Howe acknowledged the efforts of the Town Yard Task Force for their bringing forth the severe deficiencies of the current Town Yard.

Article 9 – Unexpended Appropriations

Ms. Marden and Mr. Torrisi explained that Article 9 closes out a list of 11 warrant articles to Free Cash totaling \$232,352.84. In addition, that the closed out funds could go to any revenue deficit and that it reduces the deficit effective FY2009. Ms. Marden also recognized Mr. Torrisi's efforts in preparing the list stating that it entailed a lot of work. Mark Merritt moved and Cindy Milne seconded to recommend approval. The motion passed unanimously 8-0.

Article 6 – Budget Transfers

Stephen Stapinski moved and Richard Howe seconded to recommend approval. The motion passed unanimously 8-0.

Article 7 – Supplemental Budget Appropriations

Committee members were informed that the School Department applied for and received additional Circuit Breaker funding in the amount of \$453,000 that could be spent in either FY2009 or FY2010. Discussion followed. Jon Stumpf moved and Mary O'Donoghue seconded to recommend approval of Article 7 in the amount of \$334,000 in supplemental appropriations to be used toward the School Department Special Education deficit.

Article 4 – FY2010 Budget

Jon Stumpf moved and Richard Howe seconded to recommend approval of the School Budget in the amount of \$60,433,157. The motion passed 7-1-0.

Article 8 – Free Cash

Richard Howe moved and Jon Stumpf seconded to reconsider the committee's previous vote and to recommend approval of \$500,000.00 in Free Cash for the FY2010 Budget. The motion was withdrawn and was tabled for a future meeting due to no consensus at this time.

NEXT MEETING

Regular Finance Committee
1st Floor CD&P Conference Room
Wednesday, May 20, 2009
7:00 P.M.

ADJOURNMENT – 9:45 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,
Carolyn Lynch
Recording Secretary

MOTIONS FOR WARRANT ARTICLES – 2009 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

ARTICLE 5. CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND

I move that Article 5 be approved as printed in the warrant in the amount of \$1,332,000 from taxation.

ARTICLE 6. BUDGET TRANSFERS

I move that the Town vote to transfer funds from the following 2008 Annual Town Meeting appropriations:

\$208,000 from Article 4 – Debt Service
\$155,000 from Article 4 – Town Reserve Fund
\$ 16,000 from Article 4 – Public Safety Other Expenses
\$ 27,000 from Article 4 – Plant & Facilities Other Expenses
\$ 49,000 from Article 4 – Memorial Hall Library Other Expenses
\$140,000 from Article 4 – School Other Expenses
\$533,000 from Article 8 – Capital Projects Fund

And appropriate the sum of \$500,000 for Health Insurance, \$149,000 for Public Works-Personal Services and \$479,000 for Public Works-Other Expense.

ARTICLE 7. SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET APPROPRIATIONS

I move that the Town vote to transfer \$787,000 from free cash and appropriate the sum of \$787,000 to FY2009 School Department Other Expenses.

ARTICLE 9. UNEXPENDED APPROPRIATIONS

I move that the Town vote to close-out the sum of \$232,352.84 from the following unexpended appropriations:

\$ 5,313.08 Article 44, 1987 Annual Town Meeting – Elm Square Traffic Signals
\$ 100.00 Article 49, 1997 Annual Town Meeting – Burtt Road
\$ 399.93 Article 43, 1988 Annual Town Meeting – Dispatch Center
\$ 1,599.10 Article 65, 1998 Annual Town Meeting – Traffic Signals
\$ 4,000.00 Article 31, 1999 Annual Town Meeting – Senior Tax Voucher Program
\$ 4,000.00 Article 98, 1999 Annual Town Meeting – Ballardvale Signs
\$ 2,000.00 Article 21, 2000 Annual Town Meeting – Capital Projects Fund
\$ 1,538.91 Article 5, 2004 Annual Town Meeting – Capital Projects Fund
\$ 3,620.15 Article 5, 2005 Annual Town Meeting – Capital Projects Fund
\$ 80,912.69 Article 5, 2006 Annual Town Meeting – Capital Projects Fund
\$ 128,868.98 Article 5, 2007 Annual Town Meeting – Capital Projects Fund

ARTICLE 16. TOWN YARD MASTER PLAN

I move that the Town vote to transfer from Article 32, 2004 annual Town Meeting – Senior Center Plans and appropriate the sum of \$30,000 to develop a master plan for the redevelopment of the existing Town Yard off Lewis Street, or take any other action related thereto.

ARTICLE 17. 5 CAMPANELLI DRIVE

I move that the Town vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into a right-of-first refusal, or an option, to purchase 5 Campanelli Drive (Assessor's Map 142, Lot 6), on terms and

conditions the Selectmen deem to be in the best interest of the Town, for general municipal purposes, including the development of a new Town Yard facility and to transfer \$25,000 from Article 5, 2005 Annual Town Meeting Capital Projects Fund and transfer \$2,255 from Article 32, 2004 Annual Town Meeting Senior Center Plans and appropriate the sum of \$27,255 to acquire such a right or option or take any other action related thereto.

ARTICLE 18. NEW TOWN YARD SITE EVALUATION

I move that the Town vote to transfer from Article 5, 2005 Annual Town Meeting Capital Projects fund and appropriate the sum of \$20,000 and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to evaluate a parcel or parcels of land for general municipal purposes, including the development of a new Town Yard facility. Said evaluation or evaluations shall include but not limited to, an environmental report, title search, appraisal and other expenses incidental and related thereto, or take any other action related thereto.

ARTICLE 20. FIREWORKS

I move that the Town vote to transfer from the following unexpended articles:
\$5,000.00 Article 48, 1997 Annual Town Meeting – River Road Land Acquisition
\$2,000.00 Article 21, 2000 Annual Town Meeting – Senior Tax Voucher Program
\$3,000.00 Article 36, 2002 Annual Town Meeting – Reassessment Program

and appropriate the sum of \$10,000 for a fireworks program as part of the Fourth of July program.

ARTICLE 23G. RESCINDING BOND AUTHORIZATIONS

I move that the Town vote to rescind the following unissued bond authorizations:
\$350,000 Article 11, 2002 Annual Town Meeting New Schools Additional Funding
\$250,000 Article 41, 2005 Annual Town Meeting Fishbrook Pumping Station
\$ 30,000 Article 32, 2004 Annual Town Meeting Senior Center Plans

ARTICLE 29. WATER MAIN CONSTRUCTION

I move that the Town vote to transfer \$100,000 from Article 20, 2003 Annual Town Meeting Water Treatment Plant Improvements and \$400,000 from Article 47, 2004 Annual Town Meeting Water Storage Tanks and appropriate the sum of \$500,000 for the purpose of paying costs of engineering, designing, constructing, reconstructing or replacing water mains, and for the payment of all other costs incidental and related thereto.

ARTICLE 30. WATER SYSTEM SUPPLY IMPROVEMENTS

I move that the Town will vote to transfer \$250,000 from Article 20, 2003 Annual Town Meeting Fish Brook Pumping Station and appropriate the sum of \$250,000 for the purpose of paying costs of engineering, designing, replacing instrumentation and chemical feed systems, and for the payment of all other costs incidental and related thereto.

ARTICLE 65. WATER TREATMENT PLANT ROOF REPLACEMENT

I move that the Town will vote to transfer \$650,000 from Article 20, 2003 Annual Town Meeting Water Treatment Plant Improvements and appropriate the sum of \$650,000 for the purpose of paying costs of replacing and repairing the Water Treatment Plant roof and for the payment of all other costs incidental and related thereto.